BULLETIN

of the

MARITIME LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

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Charlottetown, P. E. I.

M. L. A. Conference

The ninth Conference of the Maritime Library Association was held in Fredericton, N.B. on June 15. The first meeting opened at the University of New Brunswick Library at 9:30 a.m. The President, Mrs. Marjorie Thompson, Librarian of U.N.B. welcomed the members and the special guest, Miss Elizabeth Morton, Secretary of the Canadian Library Association, and mentioned some of the topics to be discussed at the meeting. She expressed the sympathy Maritime librarians felt towards the Moncton Public Library and the librarian, Mrs. Moore, in the tremendous loss suffered from fire last March, and their desire to help by contributing books to the Library. In this connection Miss Morton mentioned that a Committee has been appointed by the C.L.A. to help libraries that had suffered losses, and in order to avoid duplication in donations it was planned to have Canadian libraries submit lists of books they could give.

Those attending the meeting introduced themselves, and gave brief reports of the work of their libraries. Seventeen librarians were heard from:

Miss Charlotte Allan, Dalhousie Medical and Dental Library
Miss Lillian Swim, Truro Public Library
Mr. M.P. Boone, Acadia University Library
Mrs. B.F. Moore, Moncton Public Library
Mrs. J.G. Hart, Saint John Free Public Library
Miss Margaret Evans, New Brunswick Museum
Miss Evelyn Campbell, N.S. Science Library

Mrs. M.J. Thompson, University of New Brunswick Library
Mrs. M. Mowat " " " " "
Miss Nan Gregg " " " " "
Miss Eleanor Belyea " " " " "
Miss Hazen McKay " " " " "
Miss Louise Hill, N.B. Legislative Library
Miss Alice Oulton, N.B. Dept. of Education Library
Miss Gracie Campbell, P. E. I. Libraries
Miss Mary Donahoe, " "
Miss Dorothy Cullen, N.S. Regional Libraries Commission

Convention committees were named as follows:
Nominations - Miss Allan, Miss G. Campbell, Mrs. Hart
Resolutions - Mr. Boone, Mrs. Moore, Miss Donahoe.

A discussion on binding and library supplies brought suggestions from many of the librarians present. The question was brought up as to whether there would be enough binding business in the Maritimes to warrant the establishment of a bindery. The secretary was asked to write to the Nova Scotia Research Foundation pointing out that Maritime libraries are extremely interested in having near at hand a bindery that would give prompt and efficient service, and urging the establishment of a bindery in the Maritimes.

Committees were appointed to work on various questions of interest to Maritime libraries. A committee to study Certification schemes was made up of Mr. M.P. Boone, Acadia University, Miss Eleanor Belyea, U.N.B. Library, Mrs. B.F. Moore, Moncton. A survey of salaries with a view to formulating a salary scale for Maritime libraries will be undertaken by Mrs. J.G. Hart, Saint John, Miss Grace Campbell, Charlottetown, Miss Nan Gregg, Fredericton, and Miss Dorothy McKay, Dalhousie University and a board member to be named.

As a means of increasing public knowledge of the accomplishments and importance of libraries both in the Maritimes and elsewhere, and thus winning greater support for libraries, two librarians from each province were appointed to a committee to publicize library affairs. Members of the Public Relations Committee are:

Miss E. Campbell	Mrs. B.F. Moore	Miss G. Campbell
Miss L. Swim	Mrs. J.G. Hart	Miss D. Cullen
	Brother Omar Cormier	

After a delicious luncheon given by the University of New Brunswick at the Lord Beaverbrook Hotel, the Conference met again at the University Library. Miss Elizabeth Morton gave an interesting account of some of the projects of the Canadian Library Association, such as the microfilming of early Canadian newspapers and publication of the Canadian

Index. She mentioned the library posters (both juvenile and general) that are available at $1 each. A Committee of the C.L.A. is gathering information on Canadian authors and artists and will probably ask for assistance from the Maritime Library Association. Another important project will be the cooperation of the C.L.A. with the Canadian Council for Reconstruction through UNESCO in collecting books for Europe. There is a possibility that the book centre for this purpose will be set up in Halifax, since it is a year-round port.

Other business at the afternoon meeting included a discussion of the need for a revision of the Catalogue of Scientific Periodicals in the Maritime provinces, which was compiled in 1936. The members decided to ask the N.S. Institute of Science whether that body could provide funds for the revision. Miss Morton suggested that forms for checking periodical holdings might be obtained from Miss Marget Meikleham, McMaster University; she will be sending out circulars in connection with the Union List of Serials, and by using these forms Maritime librarians will avoid making out two sets.

The question of material for the Bulletin was brought up. The Editor asked the help of all members in collecting items for the Bulletin. Miss Swim suggested that the Bulletin might include questions and answers on practical problems of library work. Mrs. M. Vernon, Halifax, and Miss Hazen McKay, Fredericton were named to assist in gathering news and articles for the Bulletin.

At the close of the meeting the slate of officers for 1948-49 was brought in:

President - Maurice Boone, Acadia Univ. Library
Vice-Presidents - Charlotte Allan, Halifax
Alice Oulton, Fredericton
Jean Gill, Charlottetown
Sec'y-Treasurer - Evelyn Campbell, Halifax.

A pleasant break in the afternoon proceedings was provided with the serving of tea in the students' Common Room.

At the evening meeting, held at the Legislative Library, Dr. Desmond Pacey of the University of New Brunswick spoke on "Some aspects of Canadian literature". Dr. Pacey's command of the subject and his informal and dynamic manner combined to produce a most stimulating and enjoyable address, a fitting climax to the 1948 Conference.

C. L. A. Conference, Ottawa

(By Sister Francis Dolores, Librarian, People's Library, Reserve Mines)

This year the third annual Conference of the Canadian Library Association had its headquarters - the Chateau Laurier - right in the centre of Ottawa. Augmenting the

cordial welcome which Ottawa traditionally gives to visitors, the weather smiled on us - for the first few days at least. The delightful Major Hill Park on one side and the picturesque Rideau Canal on the other - in the distance the Ottawa River and the beautiful Gatineau Hills of Quebec - all showed to advantage as librarians stepped out into sunshine after serious sessions in the Convention Hall, the University of Ottawa, or the Public Library, where current and future problems of the library profession were under discussion. Most of us, especially the new-comers to Ottawa, took time off for a visit to Parliament Hill with its Library of Parliament overlooking a magnificent river view.

Perhaps because of the central situation of the Convention this year, the number of delegates ran well over five hundred. Delegates from the Maritimes were comparatively few - though again more numerous than last year.

Of wide interest appeal were the guest speakers who contributed to the general sessions of the Conference. Miss Margaret Scoggin of the Nathan Straus Branch of the New York Public Library, in a uniquely-presented talk, discussed the reading interests of young people. Miss Scoggin has already built up an enviable reputation both as a speaker and as a creative worker in the field of young people's library work - but those of us who heard her speak at this Convention agreed that even her "enviable reputation" did not fully prepare us for the treat that was in store. At present, Miss Scoggin has under her consideration the recently published report of the Canadian Youth Commission.

New and unusally practical was the note sounded by Mr. Angus MacDonald, President of Sneed and Company, Orange, Virginia, who in discussing New Library Building raised the "ultra-modern key" an octave higher. An authority on library design, Mr. MacDonald pointed out that the general inadequacy of public library facilities arose out of lack of funds from taxation. To meet this problem, he recommended the erection of buildings with "double purpose" - space which would bring in high returns in the form of rentals. Such a library, he said, should be located in the heart of the city on the most valuable land. He estimated that by building five times as much space as that required by the library itself, and letting out the surplus space in business offices, there could be realised a net annual income sufficient to pay for salaries and books.

Some amusing incidents highlighted the "Author-Librarian-Publisher" Panel, arranged to give the viewpoints of each of the groups responsible for bringing books to the reading public. The Association Luncheon had the privilege of being addressed by Mr. Robert Lester, Secretary of the Carnegie Corporation of New York. A splendid program of French-Canadian folk-songs was offered. The appropriate

closing theme to a Conference designed to consider those library interests which are of national importance to Canadians was supplied by Dr. Charles Marius Barbeau, ethnologist and writer. Dr. Barbeau spoke on "Canadian Culture as it might be." As a member of the Anthropological Division of the National Museum of Canada, he has been well versed in the development of Canada's culture in its many and varied phases.

The perennially important matter of a National Library for Canada with the emphasis on a Union Catalogue of all Canadian Library holdings of national interest was again stressed by our retiring President, Dr. W. Kaye Lamb and by Miss Freda Walden. As the Report of Elections was read by Reverend Father Spratt, O.M.I., delegates from the Maritimes were gratified to hear that Sister Francis de Sales had been chosen as one of the councillors of the Canadian Library Association for the coming year. Miss Elizabeth Dafoe, Chief Librarian of the University of Manitoba was duly installed as President of the Association for 1948-49. (The Casket, Antigonish)

Notes and Personals

DARTMOUTH

The Dartmouth Hi-Y Club made a cash donation to the Dartmouth Public Library as the result of a tag-day held recently. The club exceeded its objective for the tag-day, and donated the surplus to the library. Mrs. F. Baker, Librarian, expressed appreciation of this generosity and of the interest of the young people in the library. (Halifax Mail July 5)

MONCTON

The Moncton Public Library has been very successful in its campaign to collect books to replace those lost by fire. Both individuals and libraries have been generous in donating books. Following an appeal made at the meeting of the C.L.A. the Toronto Public Library has sent 700 books to Moncton. Over 6000 books are now ready for use as soon as quarters are available. Book service is being given in the hospital, and is much appreciated by patients and staff. Sites for a new building are being considered; the sum of $100,000 is to be raised towards the new library.

AMHERST

The Lay Library Commission will continue its program to create a Canadian section of literature, according to the decision of the board at its monthly meeting at which $50 was voted for this purpose. It is the intention to provide all the leading books by Canadian authors for this section and a number of them are already on the shelves.

Some of the older works will be replaced by newer volumes and a list of the best 100 books by Canadian authors is being studied for this purpose. (Halifax Herald July 9)

SUMMERSIDE School Library

As a result of the efforts of citizens, school children and the P.E.I. Libraries Summerside School has a much improved library. A drive during Book Week added to the nucleus of books previously owned by the school. Individuals and societies have donated books, and the P.E.I. Libraries transferred from the Summerside branch many books that are of greater value at the school. The school now has several thousand books - poetry, history, biography, science, drama, reference books, as well as magazines and pamphlets. Last year each class had one or two 45 minute reading periods each week. In the coming year the pupils will be allowed to take books home as well as use them in the library.

Miss Marion Gilroy, Supervisor of Regional Libraries, Saskatchewan, visited Nova Scotia during July.

Mrs. Myra Vernon, Teachers' Central Library, Halifax, paid an enjoyable visit to England recently.

Miss Barbara Murray, Dartmouth, is rejoining the Dalhousie University Library staff after spending some time in Windsor, Ontario.

Miss Ellen Webster, who recently completed a year with the Rochester Public Library, plans to go to Western Reserve Library School for a Master's degree in Library Science.

Maritimers graduating from library school in 1948 are working in widely separated places: Miss Hazen McKay is with the University of New Brunswick; Miss Patricia O'Neill with the Halifax Herald; Miss Marjorie Power and Miss Mary Elizabeth Cameron are in children's libraries in Montreal and Ottawa respectively; and Miss Kay Currie has taken a position in New York.

Mrs. Myra C. Vernon, Librarian, Teachers' Central Library, Halifax gave a course on Library Techniques at the Nova Scotia Summer School for teachers this summer. The course included book selection, cataloging, shelving, story-telling, book-mending, use of pamphlets and pictures, and co-ordination of library material with school activities.

The Nova Scotia Science Library is being transferred from the N.S. Technical College to become the Library of the Nova Scotia Research Foundation.

The Prince Edward Island Libraries is making a reprint of five radio talks on dramatics for distribution to interested groups. The series, called "Dramatics is fun" was given early in 1948 by Mr. Donald Wetmore, Dramatics Advisor of the N.S. Division of Adult Education, and is reprinted through the courtesy of the CBC. Done in a sparkling informal style, the talks are fun to read and should be very helpful to amateur theatrical groups.

LIBRARY WORK AS A CAREER

The A.L.A. Joint Committee on Library Work as a Career has asked all regional library associations to try to focus the attention of every librarian and trustee on the urgent problem of recruiting for the profession. The A.L.A. Bulletin for June contains accounts of activities of various library groups in recruiting librarians. The projects include talks, radio broadcasts and films designed to show young people the opportunities in library work. Leaflets with teen-age appeal were prepared for distribution through vocational counselors. San Bernardino Public Library, California, held a recruiting day. "Letters of invitation were sent to all high schools in the county inviting students interested in library work to attend. Ten minute-talks were given by various staff association members on the following subjects: county librarians, library schools, cataloging, reference work, special libraries and school libraries. A complete tour of each department of the library was made, the department head in each case giving a brief explanation of the functions of the department. While the tour was going on other members of the staff prepared luncheon. About twenty students attended the luncheon, and two members of the group are now attending library schools."

"A unique recruiting device in Illinois is the establishment of a jointly sponsored Mobile School for Librarianship which will offer seven one-week training courses for librarians and potential library assistants throughout the state during the summer of 1948. The curriculum and faculty are under the direction of the University of Illinois Library School. A bookmobile, furnished and manned by the State Library, will transport the faculty and equipment and serve as a model library."

Members of the Maritime Library Association whose fees are paid for 1948:

Miss Charlotte Allan, Dalhousie Medical and Dental Library
Mr. Watson Baird, Moncton
Mrs. G. F. Baker, Dartmouth
Miss E. Barnaby, Citizen's Free Library, Halifax
Mr. Maurice Boone, Acadia University Library
Miss C. A. Caie, Yarmouth
Miss Evelyn Campbell, N. S. Science Library
Miss Gracie Campbell, P. E. I. Libraries
Miss Betty Condon, Moncton Public Library
Miss Dorothy Cullen, P. E. I. Libraries
Dept. of Education, Nova Scotia
Miss Mary Donahoe, P. E. I. Libraries
Miss Margaret Evans, New Brunswick Museum, Saint John
Miss Mary Falconer, Mt. Allison University
Miss Jean Gill, Charlottetown Public Library
Miss Nan Gregg, Univ. of New Brunswick Library
Miss Grace Griffin, Dartmouth
Miss Zaidee Harris, King's College Library
Mrs. J. G. Hart, Free Public Library, Saint John
Mrs. M. K. Ingraham, Paradise, N. S.
Sister Lea, Dartmouth
Legislative Library, Fredericton
Miss Grace Lewis, Dominion Bureau of Statistics
Miss Isabel MacDonald, Yarmouth Public Library
Miss Hazen McKay, U.N.B. Library
Mrs. B. F. Moore, Moncton Public Library
Mount Allison University
Mt. St. Vincent College
Miss Alice E. Oulton, Dept. of Education, Fredericton
Public Archives of Nova Scotia
Sister Regina Clare, St. Francis Xavier University
Miss Myrtle Roy, Bedford, N. S.
St. Dunstan's College, Charlottetown
Miss G. E. Starrett, Woodstock
University of New Brunswick Library
Mrs. H. E. Vail, Sydney, N. S.
Miss E.M.A. Vaughan, Saint John

If this list does not include you or your library, you are invited to become a member and join in working for the improvement of the library situation in the Maritimes.

BRITISH BOOK DESIGN EXHIBIT. A collection of 100 books selected by the National Book League as the best in British book design during 1947 has been brought to Canada for display across the country. In the Maritimes the books have been exhibited at U.N.B. Library, the N.B. Legislative Library, and public libraries at Charlottetown and Summerside.

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